

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING COLLIN DOUGLAS
EDWARDS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Collin Douglas Edwards of Kansas City, Missouri. Collin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Collin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Collin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Collin Douglas Edwards for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE
PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 2, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009. I want to thank Representative PALLONE for introducing the bill, and Chairmen RANGEL, MILLER, and WAXMAN for moving it quickly to the floor.

Investing in children's health care is an investment in our future, which will help strengthen our next generation and save health care costs in the long run. With this legislation, we are saying that the phrase "children are our most precious resource," is no longer just a cliché. We are putting our money where our mouths are. And we are doing it in a fiscally responsible way.

While we all want to balance budgets and control spending, skimping on children's health care simply makes no sense. That's why this small increase in the tobacco tax, about 62 cents a pack, is a smart thing to do. It will deter non-smokers from trying smoking, and it will ensure that we are not adding to our budget deficit.

The CHIP Reauthorization Act preserves the coverage for all 7.1 million children currently covered by CHIP and provides coverage for an additional 4.1 million uninsured children who are currently eligible for, but not enrolled in, CHIP and Medicaid.

Far too often, constituents contact me seeking help with their medical expenses because they have no health insurance. And the lack of health insurance is not for lack of trying. Sadly, even millions who have jobs in this troubled economy lack health insurance. This bill will help those families who should never have had to decide between putting food on the table and taking a sick child to the doctor.

While this bill will not ensure coverage for every single child in the nation, it is a great first start. This bill gives states the option of covering legal immigrant children during their first five years in the United States. Without this provision, parents of children with conditions from diabetes to scleroderma to scoliosis would have to continue to wait up to five years from the time they discovered the condition until they can afford treatment for their child.

Now, states like California can choose to prevent such heartbreaking situations. And I hope they do.

I am committed to working toward quality, affordable, and universal coverage for all in America. While that might seem an unattainable goal to some, the CHIP Reauthorization Act gives me hope that we are on our way.

As an expectant mother who is fortunate enough to have good healthcare coverage, I owe it to my constituents and to all in America to provide them with the same ability to care for themselves and their families. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important bill.

A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR JIM
KLONOSKI

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, James Richard Klonoski died on January 30, 2009, at the age of 83. It is impossible to summarize his life in a few words, but I offer this tribute.

Jim was a man of sound convictions who valued and respected opposing views. He was keenly interested and engaged in politics. He was a teacher who invited his students to explore the world and challenged them to think. He understood that good teaching is full of ideas and committed himself to 40 years of excellence at the University of Oregon. He was a generous mentor and a leader who helped shape Oregon politics and politicians.

Jim Klonoski believed in the future. A host of public officials in Oregon will tell you they were inspired by Professor Klonoski to hope for and to work like hell for change. His son, Jake, noted the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama was a joyous family celebration of his father's unshakable faith in a better future.

Jim Klonoski's family was the center of his universe. His life was infused with love and admiration for his wife and children. His students were frequently amused and sometimes

amazed by stories about the children. He was equally devoted to his wife of 30 years, Ann Aiken, and Judge Aiken was a frequent guest in his political science classes.

No tribute to Jim is complete without mention of baseball. He was a fan and a fanatic. Legions of local baseball families remember Jim as a fixture at his sons' games, and area umpires no doubt recall the many tips he offered them in hopes of improving their officiating skills.

There is a Japanese proverb that says "Better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher." All of us privileged to have had our day with Jim Klonoski are grieving his unexpected death.

HONORING JOALINE OLSON OF
NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam, Speaker, I rise today to recognize JoAline Olson, who is leaving after 12 years of invaluable service as the distinguished CEO of St. Helena Hospital. Mrs. Olson is to be commended for her incredible achievements and outstanding contributions to the well-being of the Napa Valley and beyond.

Mrs. Olson's career with St. Helena Hospital began over 23 years ago. Under her leadership, the hospital has been recognized as one of the top 100 cardiovascular hospitals in the country. The hospital was also named St. Helena Chamber of Commerce 2008 Family Friendly Business of the Year, among numerous other awards. Mrs. Olson personally was given the 2002 Adventist Community Life Award and named North Bay Businesswoman of the Year in 2001.

Mrs. Olson is known in the community for her commitment to quality, whole person care and the patient experience. She is responsible for starting Napa Valley Hospice, the first hospice program in Napa County for terminally ill patients. She also brought hospitals in St. Helena and Clearlake together under one governing board, improving coordination and quality of care for patients at both hospitals. She has been instrumental in raising \$28 million to build a new regional cancer center that will offer communities access to state of the art cancer treatments.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we thank JoAline Olson for her years of dedication and service on behalf of the residents of Napa and Lake counties. She has been a role model for anyone who strives to give back to his or her community. I join her husband David and their two daughters, Amanda and Monica, in thanking JoAline and wishing her the best of luck in her new position.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING TIMOTHY ZACHARIAH
HANNON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Timothy Zachariah Hannon of Gladstone, Missouri. Timothy is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Timothy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Timothy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Timothy Zachariah Hannon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAMILY-
FRIENDLY WORKPLACE ACT

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I have tried come up with legislation that would give us more than 24 hours in a day—but I have not figured out how to do that. So for the time being, I am introducing the Family-Friendly Workplace Act that aims to give working people the opportunity to spend more time with their families.

Last week marked the 16th anniversary of the enactment of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, FMLA, which provides important job protections for America's working families who take leave for the birth or adoption of a child or because of one's own serious health condition or that of a family member. The Family-Friendly Workplace Act would complement the FMLA by providing employees with an option to accrue paid time off, which could then be taken by the employee at a later date. Under the Family-Friendly Workplace Act, compensatory time, known as "comp time," belongs to the employee, and the employee can use it for any purpose, at any time. Hourly paid workers are often less able to take unpaid leave under FMLA. In contrast, comp time is directed specifically at hourly workers, giving hourly workers the opportunity to have the same flexibility that salaried workers, as well as workers in the public sector, already enjoy.

As we all know, time is one of our most precious resources. We all want more of it, and yet we only have 24 hours in a day. That means we have to figure out how to work a full day, run errands, pack lunches, make dinner, and spend quality time with our kids, spouse, or elderly parent.

One of the biggest struggles parents face is how to balance work and family. Being a new mom myself, I struggle with balancing these

aspects every day. This bill will give people more flexibility so workers can put in the time they need to get the job done, but also make sure they can make the school play, stay home with a sick child, or care for an elderly parent.

The perception is that working mothers and parents have a greater desire for workplace flexibility than other workers; the reality is that men and women, parents and non-parents, younger and older workers alike place a high priority on increased flexibility at work.

A study by the Employment Family Foundation found that a significant majority, 75 percent, of workers prefer time off instead of overtime pay, and more than eight in ten women, 81 percent, prefer to have that benefit as well.

For many employers, flexible work arrangements are necessary to attract and retain quality employees. In return for offering employees alternative work arrangements and greater flexibility in work schedules, employers gain a workforce that is more productive, committed, and focused. For example, an insurance company in my home State of Washington saw per-employee revenue increase 70 percent over 5 years after implementing flexible work options.

In talking with Wayne Williams, president and CEO of Telect in Spokane, Washington, he told me that they are doing more to give their employees greater flexibility including personal days and utilizing technology to give them the flexibility to work from home.

This isn't just a workforce issue; it is also a community and family issue.

The bill I am introducing would allow private sector employers the option to offer employees additional time off in lieu of overtime pay. One of the greatest obstacles to flexibility in the workplace is the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act, known as the "FLSA," which governs the work schedules and pay of millions of hourly workers. While the law may have been a good fit for the workforce in the 1930s, a lot has changed in 70 years, and FLSA is simply not relevant to the needs of modern families.

Our labor force isn't what it used to be. Between 1950 and 2000, the labor force participation rate of women between 25 and 55 years of age more than doubled. Today, more than 75 percent of these women are in the labor market. Less than 12 percent of mothers with children under the age of six were in the labor force in 1950. Today, more than 60 percent work outside the home.

The FLSA fails to address the needs and preferences of employees in the area of flexible work schedules. Although salaried employees typically have greater flexibility in their day-to-day schedules, hourly employees are much more restricted—due in large part to the outdated FLSA—in their ability to gain greater flexibility in their work schedules.

The goal of the Family-Friendly Workplace Act is simple: to reconcile the overtime requirements under the FLSA with employee demands for increased workplace flexibility. Specifically, the bill would give private sector employers the option of allowing their employees to voluntarily choose paid comp time off in lieu of overtime pay. Since 1985, public sector employees have been able to bank comp time hours in order to have additional time off for vacation or other family needs. There is no justification for denying private sector employees an option under the FLSA which, by most

accounts, has been successful and immensely popular with public sector hourly employees for over 20 years.

To be clear, the Family-Friendly Workplace Act would not change the employer's obligation under the FLSA to pay overtime at the rate of one-and-one-half times an employee's regular rate of pay for any hours worked over 40 in a seven day period. The bill would simply allow overtime compensation to be given—at the employee's request—as paid comp time off, at the rate of one-and-one-half hours of comp time for each hour of overtime worked, provided the employee and the employer agree on that form of overtime compensation. The bill contains numerous protections to ensure that the choice and use of comp time is a decision made by the employee.

Since we can't do anything about adding more hours to the day, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting something that gives us a little more flexibility in how we spend that time—the Family-Friendly Workplace Act. We need to respond to the growing needs of workers who want to better integrate work and family. Let's allow working women and men to decide for themselves whether paid time off or extra pay best fits their needs and that of their families.

HONORING THOMAS ALAN
PRINSLOW

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Alan Prinslow of Kansas City, Missouri. Thomas is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Thomas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Thomas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Thomas Alan Prinslow for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO IVO KRAMER,
AUGLAIZE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to pay tribute to former Auglaize County Commissioner Ivo Kramer of Wapakoneta, Ohio. Ivo retired at the end of 2008 after twelve years of outstanding service to the people of Auglaize County.

Ivo was first elected to the Board of Commissioners in 1997 following a distinguished 40-year career with the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service (later renamed the Natural Resources

Conservation Service) and the Auglaize County Soil and Water Conservation District. He was recognized repeatedly for his dedicated efforts to preserve our natural resources, receiving outstanding performance awards from the SCS and The Ohio State University.

Ivo's colleagues recently paid tribute to his 52 years in public service, citing his long-standing support of economic growth and responsible land use practices throughout the county. The experience and knowhow he brought to bear on issues facing Auglaize County will not soon be replaced.

As is to be expected from such a dedicated public servant, Ivo looks forward to getting involved in volunteer work during his retirement. I know that his devotion to volunteerism will be an outstanding model and an inspiration to others.

I am proud to join the Auglaize County Board of Commissioners and the people of Auglaize County in congratulating Ivo on his distinguished public service career. We wish Ivo and his wife of 50 years, Camille, and their entire family every success as they move to a new chapter in their lives.

HONORING JOSEPH LAIRD RICHEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Laird Richey of Parkville, Missouri. Joseph is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Laird Richey for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING JON RACHFORD

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and congratulate the distinguished public service of Mr. Jon Rachford. Jon Rachford was honored as "Man of the Year" by the community of Corcoran, California at a reception held by the Corcoran Chamber of Commerce on January 28, 2009.

Mr. Jon Rachford was born on July 5, 1939, and grew up in Lindsay, where he attended school through his junior year in high school. In 1956, Mr. Rachford moved to Hanford, California where he graduated from high school. Upon graduating from high school Jon received a National Reserves Officers Training Corps scholarship to Stanford University.

Upon graduating from Stanford University with his bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering he moved on to serve a Regular Commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. Following Basic School he received Military Occupational Specialty as an infantry officer.

After six years of service in the Marine Corps, Jon and his wife Cathy moved to Corcoran where he was employed by the J.G. Boswell Company as a civil engineer. Between the years of 1972 and 1978, Jon worked in the Boswell Company in Los Angeles, California as an Administrative Assistant to Mr. Jim Fisher and Jim Boswell. During his time in Los Angeles he served as a Reserve Police Officer for the City of Pasadena, California as a Level 1 Officer. In 1978, Jon moved back to Corcoran and continued to work with the Boswell Company's processing office.

In 1984, Mr. Rachford received his final discharge from the Marine Corp reserves, retiring as a Major. Soon after that in 1986 Jon started a new career and went into business with Bob Lyman and Terrell DeVaney as Cal-Econ Consultants and Cal-Econ Realty. He also managed and had partnership interests at South Lake Farms and White Ranch.

In 1992, Jon started his public service when he was elected as a Councilman with the Corcoran City Council. While on the Corcoran City Council he also served on the board of the Kings Waste and Recycling Authority. He also worked with many other local residents to bring a second prison to the community of Corcoran. Jon was also involved with the Corcoran Rotary Club.

After eight short years Jon was elected to the Kings County Board of Supervisors. Jon also served on a couple of committees such as the Kings Waste and Recycling Authority, Tule and Kaweah River Enlargement Committee, where there was much success on bringing additional water storage to Terminus Dam. Jon is also a member of the board of the Corcoran Community Foundation, serves on the Foundation's Executive board as Treasurer and volunteers as a member of the finance committee. In 2001, Mr. Jon Rachford retired from his public service but still continues to stay active in his community.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Jon Rachford for his recognition as "Man of the Year." Upon this very much deserved award, we thank him for his service and we wish him continued success and best of luck for the future.

HONORING ALEXANDER FRANK WILLIAMS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander Frank Williams of Kansas City, Missouri. Alexander is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities.

Over the many years Alexander has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alexander Frank Williams for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MATTHEW ALLEN

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. McCAUL. Madam Speaker: I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Matthew Allen, nuclear physicist from Sandia National Laboratories, for his outstanding service to the Nation. Matt has served with distinction as a Fellow these last two years on the House Committee on Homeland Security, and has worked closely with me for the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology.

Matt has been instrumental in providing technical expertise to me on critical nuclear-related matters affecting the security of the homeland. He was an essential resource in the successful introduction and ultimately House passage of the "Next Generation Radiation Detection Act of 2008." His oversight and legislative work on issues such as radiation detectors, national nuclear forensics capabilities, and the Securing the Cities program was thorough, well informed, and infused with good humor.

Always wanting to learn and to do, Matt took an interest in areas beyond his personal comfort zone, including biosecurity, cybersecurity, and the nuances of the legislative process. He took enormous pride not only in the details of his work, but in the concept that a laboratory scientist could be invited to serve the Congress in such a central capacity. He referred to his fellowship as a "study abroad" program, and, like an idealistic student, delighted in everything the Hill and Washington, DC had to offer.

I applaud Matt's service and hope, long after he has returned to the lab bench, for his continued engagement in policymaking.

HONORING JAMES TAYLOR SMITH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize James Taylor Smith of Platte City, Missouri. James is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

James has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years James has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending James Taylor Smith for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. BARRETT

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, I rise to note the passing of William J. Barrett, of Alexandria, Virginia. Mr. Barrett died January 26, 2009, at age 81, following a distinguished career in Federal service that culminated at the Government Printing Office (GPO) in the senior positions of Superintendent of Documents, Deputy Public Printer, and finally as acting Public Printer.

Before transferring his flag to the GPO, Bill Barrett had a successful career in the Navy Department, where he climbed from the position of fiscal accounting clerk in 1949 to acting Administrative Officer of the Navy, reporting to the Undersecretary of the Navy. In 1971, Bill was appointed as the first administrative officer of the GPO. Within two years of his arrival at GPO, Bill became Deputy Assistant Public Printer—Superintendent of Documents.

By 1981, Bill was appointed Assistant Public Printer—Superintendent of Documents. In that position, Bill oversaw GPO's Federal Depository Library Program, which distributes government documents to depository libraries in every state of the Union. While there, Bill was instrumental in stemming financial losses then plaguing the agency's document sales program. In April 1982, Bill was appointed to Deputy Public Printer, the second highest position in the agency. When the Public Printer resigned in January 1984, Bill served as acting Public Printer until he retired from Federal service in the following December.

Madam Speaker, although I did not have the privilege to know and work with Bill Barrett, I am told that he was a genuine friend to the GPO and well respected by the Members and staff of the Congress. While serving, Bill traveled extensively to educate Americans about the GPO, its operations and the important missions it fulfills, and many consider him perhaps the best "ambassador" the GPO has ever had. His distinguished career reflected his dedication and devotion to the Federal service and the people we all serve. I commend Bill Barrett's record of service to the Nation, and on behalf of the Joint Committee on Printing, I offer our condolences to Betty, Bill's wife of 59 years, and to their six children and their families.

HONORING JOSHUA MICHAEL SHINER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua Michael Shiner of Platte City, Missouri. Joshua is a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joshua has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joshua has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joshua Michael Shiner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING BRENDA LEE FOR RECEIVING THE GRAMMY "LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD"

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the tremendous career and professional accomplishments of Brenda Lee, a legendary member of the Tennessee recording arts community and an international star, on the occasion of her receipt of the 2009 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award on February 8, 2009.

The Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award is presented by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Science to performers who make significant contributions in the field of recording arts. Brenda Lee's career epitomizes the ideals established by the Recording Academy, and provides a benchmark for success that few artists worldwide can match.

Brenda sold over 100 million records during her career, and sold more records than any other woman in the history of recorded music. In doing so, she established a long-lasting connection with both American and international fans while holding the title of "Most Programmed Female Vocalist" for five consecutive years according to Billboard magazine, and three consecutive years according to Cashbox magazine. This standard of excellence yielded 29 gold records, international acclaim throughout the world, induction in the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1997, and induction in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2002.

More importantly, Brenda Lee remains an active community leader in Nashville, Tennessee where she and her husband Ronnie continue to make their home. Her charitable contributions include volunteer leadership in organizations spanning from the Kidney Foundation, the American Heart Association and the March of Dimes to the YWCA for Abused Women.

On behalf of constituents throughout Tennessee's 7th District and music fans around the world, I applaud Brenda Lee for her lifetime body of work, and congratulate her well-deserved acceptance of the 2009 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

HONORING ELI SAMUEL EBER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eli Samuel Eber of Kansas City, Missouri. Eli is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eli has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eli has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eli Samuel Eber for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO SOL ROSENBERG

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the late Sol Rosenberg. Rosenberg, who survived Nazi death camps to become a local titan in industry, philanthropy and civil affairs, died January 30, 2009, in Monroe, La., at the age of 82.

As a young teenager, Rosenberg lived in the Warsaw Ghetto under anti-Semitic law. He was imprisoned in four death camps, participated in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, served as a slave laborer in two slave labor camps in Poland and survived the iniquitous Dachau Death March.

After escaping from the concentration camp at Treblinka and taking part in the courageous rebellion in Warsaw, Rosenberg was sent to Dachau, where he was finally liberated after the Allies defeated the Nazis.

In 1942, Nazis took the lives of his two sisters and both parents. He also lost his extended family of over 50 uncles, aunts and cousins to this devastating war.

For almost six years, Rosenberg endured and witnessed unimaginable horror. Yet, he outlasted his enemies, miraculously evading the harrowing fate of everyone he loved, and somehow emerged with his compassion and resolve to live still intact.

After World War II, Rosenberg met his wife, Tola, in a displaced persons camp in Germany. Tola was also a survivor of the war that took her entire family.

In 1949, they left Europe for a new life in Louisiana, with little more than the clothes on their backs and a rough grasp of the English language. The couple raised their five children in this state.

In the 1950s, Rosenberg founded Sol's Pipe and Steel in Monroe, which he ran for more than 50 years. Starting this business from scratch, Rosenberg eventually became a leading industrialist and community benefactor in northeastern Louisiana—another testament to his dedication and will to survive.

Rosenberg's involvement in community affairs was expansive, as were his charitable works. Schools, civic and service organizations and many other groups were the recipients of his kindness and charity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Sol Rosenberg—a friend and inspiration to many, and whose life was a true testament of the human strength and spirit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORIC
LIFE OF HERB HAMROL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, on April 18th, 1906, our beloved city of San Francisco experienced an earthquake and fire that devastated all but a handful of buildings and resulted in the deaths of more than 3000. When the temblor struck, at 5:12 a.m. on that spring morning, Herbert Heimie Hamrol was just three years old. When he passed away last week at the age of 106, Mr. Hamrol had outlived all other male survivors.

Madam Speaker, Herb Hamrol was and continues to be a vital part of San Francisco's history. Every year, on the anniversary of the great quake, he would rise early and leave his Daly City home in time to gather at 5:12 a.m. at Lotta's Fountain with other survivors and well-wishers. While he remembered little of the actual quake—being just 3 years old when it happened—Herb was always generous with what memories he had.

"I remember my mother carrying me down the stairs," he told a reporter at last year's gathering. He also recalled camping in Golden Gate Park while ominous black smoke filled the skies and rubble lay in the streets.

Herb was not just known to the historic-minded. Many San Franciscans knew him as the kind and helpful clerk at Andronico's Market on Irving Street, not far from his home after the quake, Golden Gate Park.

Defying his advanced age, Herb Hamrol worked up until a week before his death. At 106 years old, he donned an apron and punched a timeclock forty years after many had chosen to retire.

Herb Hamrol was born in San Francisco on January 10, 1903. He left school after the 8th grade for a job delivering meat for a butcher. He later worked as a phone company clerk and owned his own business—Herbert's Food Shop at 16th and Geary—for forty years. In 1963, he joined Andronico's. Cecilia, the love of his life and wife for forty years, died in 1969. He told the Chronicle in 2003 that he kept a picture of her in his room and, "Every morning I say 'good morning' to her."

At last year's remembrance Mayor Gavin Newsom told the crowd of 350, "There is no greater San Franciscan than Herb."

Madam Speaker, our city, so many times blessed, was further endowed by the many years we were allowed to call Herb our own. Our condolences go to his large and loving family, including sons Burt and Bil Hamrol; daughter-in-law Carla; grandchildren Michele, Allison, Burt Jr., Jennifer and Cecilia; great-grandchildren Lauren, Dustin, Travis, Ceidric, Nicholas and Pamela; and great-great-grandchildren Alexis and Logan.

During Herb Hamrol's century-plus life, he witnessed two world wars; the invention of television and the computer; the struggle for civil rights, women's suffrage and greater equality for all; advancements in medicine and science that included heart transplants and wonder drugs and putting a man on the Moon. Yet, through it all, Herb kept his life—and his advice—simple. When asked by a reporter to share some of the wisdom gathered in so many years on Earth, he offered a nugget as true today as it was on the day he was born: "Don't spend every dime you get."

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN
D. DINGELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Congressman JOHN D. DINGELL and in recognition of his outstanding service to our country as the Representative for the 15th District of Michigan. On February 11, 2009, Congressman DINGELL will become the longest serving Member in the House of Representatives.

Congressman DINGELL was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado on July 18, 1926 and followed in the footsteps of his father when he succeeded him as a Representative in Congress for Michigan's 15th Congressional District. He joined the U.S. Army at the age of 18 and at one of the defining moments in modern world history, during World War Two. He served as a Second Lieutenant in the Army and completed his military service in 1946. Congressman DINGELL attended Georgetown University for both his undergraduate and graduate degrees, earning his bachelor's degree in Chemistry and J.D. from the Law School, completing his studies in 1952. Prior to obtaining his seat in Congress, Representative DINGELL opened his own private law firm and served as both a forest ranger and attorney in Wayne County, Michigan. He became a Member of the House of Representatives in 1955 at the age of 29, following the death of his father, who was the incumbent Member of Congress.

Congressman DINGELL's accomplishments in the House of Representatives include writing groundbreaking legislation on the environment such as the Clean Air Act of 1990 as well as working to pass vital animal welfare laws such as the Endangered Species Act. As Chairman Emeritus of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Representative DINGELL has addressed some of the most significant issues facing our Nation today, such as health care and national energy policy. He continues his father's legacy in Congress by introducing the same national health care legislation his father fought for during his tenure in Congress. Congressman DINGELL's leadership has served as an undeniable example and source of inspiration to our colleagues and to all those working toward national health care legislation and issues of environmental justice.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Congressman JOHN D. DINGELL and in recognition of his exceptional accomplishments during his tenure as the longest serving Member in the House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JOSEPH ANTHONY ZANGER, SR.

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Mr. Joseph Anthony Zanger, Sr. whose business acumen, community service and family dedication are inspirational.

Joseph was born on December 28, 1927 in San Jose, California. In true American style, Joseph was a descendent of hard-working immigrant families. His ancestors initially worked in the agricultural trade, but went on to build the largest cannery and winery in Santa Clara Valley.

He attended St. Mary's Elementary School in San Jose, Bellarmine College Preparatory, and Santa Clara University, where he majored in economics. After attending college, Joseph moved to Pacheco Pass to help manage the family's orchard operations. In 1953, he married Kathleen Kelsch from Mandan, North Dakota. They raised their four children, Wendy, Allene, Joe, and Gretchen, on their ranch on Pacheco Pass.

For over 50 years, Joseph and his two brothers, George and Eugene, farmed over 600 acres of orchards and vineyards on Pacheco Pass. Joseph's economics major enabled him to develop a business marketing strategy for the California Prune Bargaining Association, which he helped found at the age of 19. For ten years, Joseph represented San Benito and Santa Clara counties on the California/Federal Prune Administrative Committee and on the California Prune Advisory Committee. He also served as the Director of the Santa Clara Valley Winegrowers Association and President of the San Benito County Farm Bureau.

The Zanger family founded Casa de Fruta to complement their farming business. Casa de Fruta started with a small cherry stand built in 1943 and grew in the following decades to include a large fruit stand, restaurant, RV park, lodge, wine tasting, gift shop, barnyard zoo, candy store, service station, and dried fruit mailing business. Joseph oversaw the construction of the buildings and landscaped Casa de Fruta with large rocks that he hauled from the Pacheco Pass tunnel.

Joseph constantly studied safety and economic issues related to the area's transportation system. In 1978, he served on the planning committee for completion of Interstate 5 from Stockton to Santa Nella/Highway 152. In 2005, he worked to establish a new route for Highway 152/156 to connect with Highway 101 south of Gilroy. Because of the large number of traffic accidents that had occurred on these highways, his work has benefited the hundreds, if not thousands, of Californians who travel along those highways.

I have the pleasure of employing one of Joseph's grandchildren, Meggie, in my Washington, D.C. office and I join her in celebrating her grandfather's life and accomplishments. I thank the Zanger family for their contributions to our region in California and, on behalf of our community in California's 16th Congressional District, offer sincere condolences on Mr. Zanger's passing.

IN HONOR OF DENNIS PEHOTSKY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker and Colleagues, I rise today in honor and recognition of Dennis Pehotsky, upon the occasion of his retirement from NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. Dennis Pehotsky is retiring after nearly thirty years of dedicated service to the NASA Glenn Research Center.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Pehotsky reflected dedication not only to the mission of NASA, but also to his union, serving as the Vice President of the LESA's IFPTE, Local 28. His commitment to safety issues, ranging from cancer concerns in buildings to his contributions to NASA's "Safe Return to Flight" has served to place the welfare of all NASA employees as the top priority.

Mr. Pehotsky began his tenure in 1982 as a Voucher Examiner Purchasing Agent. Over the years, he was entrusted with thousands of the most complex orders and purchases. His outstanding performance on the job, innovative techniques and community outreach led to his appointment to the NASA Safety Committee and also led to outstanding performance ratings and several professional awards. Mr. Pehotsky was honored with the Silver Snoopy Award, NASA's most coveted award. This award, presented by NASA astronauts, honors an individual for enhancing the safety of space flight.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Dennis Pehotsky, whose commitment to NASA, to his union and to the rights and safety of all workers is reflected throughout his professional career. His exceptional work ethic, ability to bring people together and his leadership in championing the cause of worker protection—from the electrician on the ground to the flight commander poised for take-off—has raised the bar of safety, excellence and innovation throughout NASA.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 795, THE
DOROTHY I. HEIGHT AND WHITNEY
M. YOUNG, JR. SOCIAL
WORK REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give my remarks on the reintroduction of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act, which I first introduced in the 110th Congress. Once again, I am immensely honored and privileged to recognize the historic efforts and legacies of two of my personal heroes in supporting a profession that each of us has been proud to call our own. Moreover, I rise in support of the millions of Americans served daily by the nation's social workers. As a professional social worker, I am acutely aware of the significant contributions that social workers have made to the socio-economic fabric of our nation. Sadly, I am equally aware of the troubling challenges that prevent my professional colleagues from

continuing to deliver essential social services and interventions to Americans most in need of such support.

This measure could not be introduced at a more critical moment. Our nation is experiencing challenges of a magnitude we have not faced in decades. Unemployment rates are rising, banks across the country are failing, millions of houses are in foreclosure, and a middle-class lifestyle is no longer within reach for the average American. This is placing extreme pressure on families and creating an ever-increasing need for a workforce adept at tackling issues of poverty and inequality, particularly during moments of crisis. The workforce that has historically led this charge in times of turmoil is social work.

My social work colleagues provide essential services to individuals across the lifespan and have long been the workforce to guide people to critical resources, counsel them on important life decisions, and help them reach their full potential. Social workers are society's safety net, and with our current economic challenges, the need for this safety net has grown to include and protect a diverse group of people from all walks of life.

Yet, as I stand before you today, our nation's social workers face daunting challenges, challenges that compromise the ability of these dedicated professionals to provide their clients with unparalleled service and care. These challenges are preventing students from choosing a degree in social work and causing experienced social workers to leave the field. Competing policy priorities, fiscal constraints, safety concerns, significant educational debt, comparatively insufficient salaries, increased administrative burdens, and unsupportive work environments are just a few of the common obstacles encountered by our nation's social workers. Yet, our nation's social workers do not suffer alone. Indeed, just as America's social workers struggle daily to confront mounting barriers impeding the delivery of essential services, so must millions of Americans absorb the direct impact of this compromised access to necessary care. There are already documented social work shortages in the fields of aging and child welfare.

The Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act is designed to address these challenges to the social work profession, thereby helping to ensure that millions of individuals and families throughout the nation can continue to receive necessary social work services. This legislation creates the foundation for a professional workforce to meet the ever-increasing demand for the essential services that social workers provide. Professional social workers have the unique expertise and experience to help solve the social and economic challenges that our nation is facing.

I rise today with grave concern, yet resolute optimism. On one hand, I am convinced that workforce challenges, if left unaddressed, will result in a social work corps ill-equipped to provide comprehensive service to underserved communities throughout the country. Nonetheless, I recognize that we have a unique opportunity to outline, develop, and implement strategies that help the people of America. Like Dr. Dorothy I. Height, I believe that "we hold in our hands the power . . . to shape not only our own but the nation's future," a future that is founded upon the dissolution of imaginary distinctions within our growing society and a

renewed commitment to those struggling to keep pace.

Thus, in the words of Whitney M. Young, Jr., I stand today to "Support the strong, give courage to the timid, remind the indifferent, and warn the opposed." In the name and spirit of Dorothy I. Height and the late Whitney M. Young, Jr., then, I come before you to propose a dramatic reinvestment in our nation's social work community.

I invite my colleagues in the House and Senate to consider the far-reaching effects of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, to say nothing of the persistent echoes of years of conflict in Vietnam and Southeast Asia. More than any other group of professionals, America's social workers provide our armed services and combat veterans with mental health interventions, housing and financial counseling, case management, and advocacy, among other services. Yet, across America, social workers with unmanageable, excessive caseloads cannot properly serve the millions of veterans who will return from the Iraq War experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, suicide, and drug and alcohol addiction. Indeed, despite our best wishes, America will continue to see war-weary soldiers whose otherwise thankful homecoming may be marred by post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or substance abuse.

Much the same, social workers with intractable educational debt must balance the burden of repaying student loans with ever-expanding and complex caseloads, leaving young social workers struggling to assist the one in seven adults with dementia, and the hundreds of thousands of older Americans who rely upon their invaluable skills and service. With a full quarter of the American population suffering from a diagnosable mental illness, important caregiver, family, and health counseling, as well as mental health therapy will continue to suffer as professional social workers struggle to repay student loans and are forced into better paying careers.

In addition to these and other invaluable services provided to our nation's veterans and senior citizens, however, the efforts of America's social workers have a direct and measurable impact upon communities throughout the nation. A brief sampling of these efforts includes:

Child Welfare: The Children's Defense Fund has found that an American child is confirmed as abused or neglected every 36 seconds. Similarly, a recent estimate by U.S. Administration for Children and Families indicates that 510,000 children are currently living within the U.S. foster care system, with most children placed under the care of foster parents due to parental abuse or neglect. Research shows that professional social workers in child welfare agencies are more likely to find permanent homes for children who were in foster care for 2 or more years. Unfortunately, fewer than 40 percent of child welfare workers are professional social workers.

Health: The American Cancer Society estimates that there were 1,437,180 new cases of cancer and 565,650 cancer deaths in 2008 alone, while the incidence of cancer will increase dramatically as the population grows older. Similarly, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that as many as 1,285,000 Americans are living with HIV or AIDS. In 2006, 1.3 million people received

care from one of the nation's hospice providers. Health care and medical social workers practice in all of these areas and provide outreach for prevention, help individuals and their families adapt to their circumstances, provide grief counseling, and act as a liaison between individuals and their medical team, helping patients make informed decisions about their care.

Education: The National Center for Education Statistics states that, in 2005, the national dropout rate for high school students totaled 9.3 percent. White students dropped out at a rate of 5.8 percent, while African American students dropped out at a rate of 10.7 percent, and Hispanic students dropped out at a rate of 22.1 percent. Some vulnerable communities have drop out rates of 50 percent or higher. Social workers in school settings help at-risk students through early identification, prevention, intervention, counseling and support.

Criminal Justice: According to the United States Department of Justice, every year more than 650,000 ex-offenders are released from Federal and State prisons. Social workers employed in the corrections system address disproportionate minority incarceration rates, provide treatment for mental health problems and drug and alcohol addiction, and work within as well as outside the prison environment to reduce recidivism and increase positive community reentry.

For these reasons, and innumerable others, America will increasingly demand the services of a highly skilled professional social work community. Unfortunately, this community is not currently equipped to keep pace with this increasing demand for vital services throughout the country. The Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act will provide the necessary insight and perspective to guide current and future investment in this indispensable profession and the individuals and families they serve, while providing immediate support for demonstration programs throughout the country.

I am proud to introduce the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act and must acknowledge the passionate advocacy of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Action Network for Social Work Education and Research (ANSWER), Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD), Association of Oncology Social Work (AOSW), Clinical Social Work Association (CSWA), Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE), Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research (IASWR), National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW), National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work (NADD), Social Welfare Action Alliance (SWAA), and the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) on behalf of this legislation. As drafted, this bill will create a Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide a comprehensive analysis of current trends within the professional and academic social work communities. Specifically, the Commission will develop recommendations and strategies to maximize the ability of America's social workers to serve individuals, families, and communities with expertise and care. The recommendations will be delivered to Congress and the Executive Branch.

This Commission will investigate in greater detail the numerous areas where social workers have a profound impact upon their client population, including aging, child welfare, military and veterans affairs, mental and behavioral health and disability, criminal justice and correctional systems, health and issues affecting women and children. More significantly, the Commission established within this legislation will provide needed guidance to protect the profession that has historically protected the most vulnerable in society. These concerns are also directly related to national discussions affecting entitlement programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, to name only a few.

While the Social Work Reinvestment Commission included within the proposed legislation will work to ensure that America's underserved families and individuals receive professional care and social services in the years to come, I urge my colleagues to recognize the urgency of the pervasive challenges confronting our nation's 600,000 professional social workers at this very moment. The Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act will also create demonstration programs to address relevant "on the ground" realities experienced by our nation's professional social workers. The competitive grant programs will prioritize activities in the areas of workplace improvements, research, education and training, and community based programs of excellence. These grants programs will provide Congress guidance on the establishment of best practices and the replication of successful programs nationally and as such, this initial investment will be returned many times over both in supporting ongoing efforts to establish efficacious social service solutions and in direct service to affected client communities.

While the singular goal of this legislation is the delivery of vital services to our nation's underserved communities by means of a reenergized and emergent academic and professional social work corps, it is essential to undertake preliminary efforts to assess the best means by which to confront ongoing challenges cutting across diverse communities.

Finally, in bringing this measure before my esteemed House colleagues, I would be remiss to neglect the heroes in whose name this vital reinvestment in our nation's social workers is made—Dr. Dorothy I. Height and Mr. Whitney M. Young, Jr. The exemplary efforts undertaken by model social work programs throughout the country and the forward-thinking initiative instilled within the Social Work Reinvestment Commission serve as a reflection of the common strengths of Dr. Height and Mr. Young, while the legislation I propose in their names will enable our most talented social workers to continue and broaden their collective efforts.

A lifelong advocate for racial and gender equality, Dorothy I. Height has applied the professional training she received at the New York School of Social Work to challenges dauntingly large and deceptively small. A confidant and protege of renowned activist and educator Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Height began her long and esteemed relationship with the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) when then-Council President Dr. Bethune noticed a young African-American woman escorting First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt

into a Council meeting. From that moment forward, Dr. Height served as a stalwart champion for the rights of African American women and the families they love and support. Leading both as NCNW President, and a crusader within the American Civil Rights Movement, Dr. Height's efforts obliged the nation to recognize the disturbing lack of basic social services within America's low-income and minority communities in her time and still today.

Bound by an undying commitment to women and families left unsupported by prevailing social services, Dr. Height's commitment to the study and practice of social work and faith in the power of direct care and intervention have remained indelible throughout her decades of service on behalf of both the NCNW and the YWCA. In fact, in many instances, such support for social work could be found at the forefront of these efforts, with Dr. Height serving as an advocate and professor of social work in developing countries throughout the world.

Much the same, Civil Rights leader, educator, and long-time President of the National Urban League, Whitney Young leveraged the skills and values strengthened within his advanced study and practice as a social worker to lead the Urban League to unprecedented successes in its ongoing commitment to provide economic opportunity for America's most disadvantaged. A close advisor to three Presidents—Democrats John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, as well as Republican Richard Nixon—Mr. Young brought a unique ability to work for change from within the often-contentious political paradigm of mid-century America. Expanding the size and influence of the National Urban League exponentially during his time as president, Mr. Young guided a once-fledgling, guarded organization to the vanguard of the American Civil Rights Movement.

In fact, his personal efforts and bold vision contributed significantly to the creation of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty and similarly historic and transformative policy initiatives.

Yet, throughout and within each of his great accomplishments, Mr. Young brought with him a profound appreciation for the power of social services within communities historically neglected and underserved. In fact, in a formative moment during his tenure as Dean of Social Work at Atlanta University, Young stood as a vocal advocate for his alumni in their boycott of the Georgia Conference of Social Work. Aware of the great responsibilities of his colleagues and students, Mr. Young fought for a responsive and dedicated social work corps, the services of whom must be directed to those most in need. As President of both the National Conference on Social Welfare and the National Association of Social Workers, Young led efforts within the social work community to expand and more assiduously target services to low-income and minority communities neglected throughout our nation's history.

In this emboldened spirit, the legislation that today bears the names of Whitney M. Young, Jr. and Dorothy I. Height will enable an already active American social work workforce to overcome lingering barriers to the delivery of essential services to underserved client populations throughout the country. This investment in our nation's social workers is both a commitment to the continued support of their

critical role within American society, and an anticipation of the great advances still achievable within the field. I urge my colleagues in both Chambers to support this measure both in honor of Dr. Dorothy I. Height and the late Whitney M. Young, Jr. and in resolute defense of the ideals and the people to whom Dr. Height and Mr. Young have dedicated their lives.

IN HONOR OF REDA BENDA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Reda Benda, devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend, whose spirit, positive attitude and service to others has left an indelible imprint upon our Cleveland community.

Mrs. Benda married Elmer Benda at Holy Name church in 1941, where she remained an active parishioner her entire adult life. Together they raised five children: James, Elmer, Kathleen, William and Rosemary. Mrs. Benda was the center of her family—always surrounded by the support and strength of her children, sixteen grandchildren and twenty great grandchildren.

Her devotion to her family extended into the community, throughout the North Broadway neighborhood where her leadership and concern for others lifted the lives of countless neighbors. Mrs. Benda was a founding member of the Jones Road Town Club, a member of the Orchard Civic Club and she logged nearly 7,000 hours as a volunteer at St. Alexis Hospital. She was active in several neighborhood senior organizations, including Holy Name, St. Stan's and St. Therese Senior Citizen Groups. Additionally, Mrs. Benda was a passionate participant in the democratic process. She was an active member of the Ward 12 Democratic Club and the Cleveland Women's Democratic Club. Moreover, Mrs. Benda was a Democratic Precinct Committeewoman for nearly twenty years.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, join me in honor and remembrance of Reda Benda, whose joyous life is one to celebrate and emulate. I offer my heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Benda's children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, extended family and many friends. Although she will be greatly missed, her unwavering devotion to faith, family, friends and to the people of the North Broadway neighborhood has touched the lives of everyone who knew her, and she will never be forgotten.

SAN JOSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
IN DUNEDIN, FLORIDA CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, the students, parents, faculty and staff of San Jose Elementary School celebrate 50 years of educational excellence this week in Dunedin, Florida, which I have the honor to represent.

Monika Wolcott, San Jose's principal, and her staff take great pride in providing a close-knit family that works with parents and local businesses to challenge their students to achieve the highest standards. Their motto is Commitment to Character and SOS (self, others, school).

San Jose Elementary welcomed its first students on September 2, 1958 to a growing part of North Pinellas County and now has as its students the children of many of its alumni.

The school has been called one of Pinellas County's best kept secrets and sits on a very unique piece of property. It is immediately adjacent to the 75 acre Hammock Park, the Dunedin Nature Center, the Gulf of Mexico and the Pinellas Trail, a county-long recreational pathway.

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in saying thank you to San Jose Elementary for providing a half-century of caring service to the thousands of students who have passed through its doors. As the times and technologies have changed over the years, one thing has remained constant. That is a commitment to a warm and caring learning environment which has led to a quality education for Pinellas County elementary students. My congratulations go out to the San Jose Hawks, their parents and teachers for a job well done.

IN HONOR OF MARLENE ELLIOTT BROWN

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Marlene Elliott Brown. In a state with many "firsts" in its history, we are proud of the fact that Marlene was the first female State Director for USDA Rural Development, and after eight years she has left big shoes to fill for those that will follow her. This amazing woman's nearly twenty-six years of tireless federal service have been nothing but extraordinary.

A native of Laurel, Delaware, Marlene's career in public service began in 1982, when she joined the staff of the late U.S. Senator William V. Roth. She became the Senator's State Director and served him faithfully for eighteen years. On March 14, 2001, she was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as the Delaware/Maryland Director for USDA Rural Development. Marlene's eight years in this position are marked with many noteworthy accomplishments including: 1065 Delaware families or individuals becoming new homeowners; 2855 jobs created or saved; 44,188 homes and businesses that benefited from improved central water and wastewater systems; and 235 homes of individuals with disabilities that were repaired to remove health and safety hazards.

But Marlene's impact on those around her is certainly not limited to her professional career. She is a role model for others and is involved in many community organizations, having served as President for the Georgetown-Millsboro Rotary Club, Vice Chairman of the Republican State Committee, Honorary Commander at the Dover Air Force Base, Board Member of the Delmarva Christian High

School, member of the Delaware Tech Educational Foundation Council, and through her faith as a member of Trinity UMC and the Delmar Christian Center.

Marlene once described the late Senator William Roth in the following words, "all were better for the time spent with him. He gave everyone opportunity, he led by example, and he showed the path for public service." I find Marlene Elliott Brown to be all of those things and more. She is a thoughtful leader, an insightful and honest woman, a tireless volunteer in her community and church, a dedicated public servant, and above all, a loyal and generous friend.

I congratulate Marlene for her years of extraordinary service to the state of Delaware and the countless citizens who have been touched in some way by her dedication. On behalf of all Delawareans, I would like to thank her parents—Marshall and Blanche Elliott; her husband—Jim; and her friends for sharing her with us over these many years. Marlene is an exemplary citizen and like other outstanding individuals before her, "we are better for the time spent with her."

IN HONOR OF JUDGE LARRY A. JONES, SR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Judge Larry A. Jones, Sr., who was recently sworn-in to serve as Judge with the Court of Appeals of Ohio, Eighth Appellate District, where he will hear cases on appeal in Cuyahoga County.

Judge Jones, a lifelong resident of the Cleveland area, has a multifaceted and rich history of public service, which began at Glenville High School, where he was elected President of the Student Council. Following High School, Judge Jones realized the importance of a solid educational foundation. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wooster College, then went on to earn a Juris Doctorate degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Judge Jones served as the Assistant County Prosecutor for Cuyahoga County from 1978 to 1981, when he was elected to the Cleveland City Council, where he represented the residents of Ward 10 for five years. In 1987, Judge Jones was elected Judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court, and was re-elected every six years thereafter. Throughout his tenure, Judge Jones created an atmosphere of teamwork among the judges, uniting to develop programs to pave the way for offenders to renew their lives, thereby reducing recidivism. In 1998, Judge Jones was selected by judicial leaders to preside as the Judge for the Greater Cleveland Drug Court, a multi-tiered program involving city and county agencies that focuses on drug offenders in two main ways: Accountability and treatment resources. This vital program continues to turn lives around and provides hope for individuals and families caught in the devastating web of drug abuse, providing them with the tools to break free and reclaim their lives.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the work of Judge Larry A.

Jones, Sr. as he begins his service as Judge with the Court of Appeals of Ohio, Eighth Appellate District. His unwavering dedication, professionalism, integrity and sense of compassion will continue to empower, uplift and strengthen the lives of every person who may find herself or himself seated before him. His tenure as the Judge of the Greater Cleveland Drug Court has made an immeasurable impact on the lives of countless individuals throughout our community, and he will continue to do so as Judge with the Eighth Appellate District of Ohio.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN M.
CUSTARD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn M. Custard and her achievements as the Principal of Cecil D. Hylton Senior High School in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Principal Custard treats her students and faculty as family. The school motto, "We are Family Working Together for Total Success" resonates through every interaction at Hylton Senior High School. There is mutual trust and respect amongst the students, parents, faculty and administration, and all strive to meet Principal Custard's signature high expectations. She leads with positivity; motivating those around her to excel with efforts that are earnest and determined.

Principal Custard's approach to education is remarkable and her success undeniable. The percentage of special education students who passed the Standards of Learning exams rose to 80% from 59% in just one year. In 2008, Ms. Custard was named the 2008 Outstanding High School Principal of Virginia, and Hylton Senior High School was recently placed in the top 5% of Newsweek's Top 1000 High Schools in the Nation.

Principal Custard preaches collaborative leadership and established the Principal's Advisory Council. Composed of parents, students and staff, the Council encourages engagement in the school's community. Principal Custard education system can only benefit as parents and students take ownership in the performance and future of their local schools.

In recognition of her innovation and sincere dedication to education, the National Association of Secondary School Principals named Principal Custard as one of their six finalists for the 2009 Principal of the Year Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join my endorsement of Principal Custard's leadership in our nation's education system.

COMMEMORATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED
PEOPLE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the contributions of the fol-

lowing individuals, and the organizations they lead, for their consistent and essential support to my constituents in the 7th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

I thank Darrell Jones, of West Chester; Sheila A. Carter of Darby; Reverend Albert G. Davis of the Mainline; Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn of Media; M. Lana Shells of Norristown; Jerome Whyatt Mondesire of Philadelphia; Alice H. Hammond of West Chester; and, Linda Osinupedia of Yeadon for their tireless efforts.

These 21st Century American patriots carry on the traditions of the NAACP whose mission "to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination," remains as vital today as it was when founded a century ago.

HONORING ARMTEC DEFENSE
PRODUCTS COMPANY

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mrs. BONO MACK. Madam Speaker, it is both an honor and a privilege to congratulate Armtec Defense Products Company on their 40th anniversary. For the past four decades, this organization has worked diligently with the U.S. military to create products to protect and defend our county.

Armtec Defense Company began with a simple technical innovation, combining nitro-cellulose into inert paper products, a superior invention that remains the industry standard even today. In 1968, founder and innovator Pete DeLuca opened the Armtec facility in Coachella, California, and began production of combustible 152mm cartridge cases. This product was used by the U.S. Army for nearly 30 years on Armored Reconnaissance Vehicles, and I commend Armtec for supplying our armed forces with the vital support our troops deserve.

For the past 40 years, Armtec has developed numerous combustible ordnance products for the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps. These products are utilized by a vast majority of U.S. tank, artillery and mortar rounds in our military, and have been supplied to our forces in past military engagements such as Vietnam, Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Armtec Defense Products Company has been and continues to be a wonderful asset to the Coachella Valley. Over the decades, they have provided thousands of jobs to the local residents of the 45th Congressional District, which is crucial during these economic times. Additionally, Armtec supports numerous worthy causes throughout our community, like the U.S. Marine Scholarship Fund, Navy League, and the United Way.

Armtec Defense Products Company's dedication to our nation's military is invaluable. On behalf of the constituents of the 45th District and the greater United States, we thank you for your contributions to our country's past and future.

Again, congratulations on your 40th anniversary.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
FEDERAL EMPLOYEE RETIRE-
MENT SYSTEM (FERS) SICK
LEAVE EQUITY ACT OF 2009

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan "Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) Sick Leave Equity Act" that I am offering with my colleague Representative FRANK WOLF (R-VA). The current sick leave policies for the civil service are inappropriately bifurcated between new and older systems, and the current system is costing the Federal Government millions in lost productivity each year.

Today, Federal employees enrolled in FERS may accrue annual sick leave over the course of their career, but under the current "use-it or lose-it" policy, all sick leave is eliminated at retirement. Representative WOLF and I believe that this policy serves as a disincentive to conserve sick leave—or an incentive to use sick leave at the end of careers when employees are not really sick. An August 2008 Congressional Research Service (CRS) report indicated that sick leave balances were significantly lower for FERS employees than CSRS employees, and a survey of FERS and CSRS employees showed that 85% of CSRS employees conserve as much sick leave as possible, whereas 75% of FERS employees said they would use as much sick leave as possible during their last years. The Office of Personnel Management confirmed the existence of this "FERS flu" phenomenon as well, asserting that the lost productivity and training of new employees to fill in for absent employees cost the Federal Government an estimated \$68 million annually. This lost productivity accompanies the aging workforce nearing retirement over the next ten years.

The use of sick leave is a significant problem to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Federal Government, but it is also a challenge that has been overcome before. The story of how employees in CSRS got their sick leave benefit provides insight into the same challenges the Federal Government faces today. Originally CSRS employees had no benefit—they all forfeited any unused sick leave upon retirement. As a result, Federal employees were burning their sick leave at the end of their careers. The Civil Service Commission estimated that half of all retiring Federal employees had no sick leave; Congress reported that retiring employees used an average of 40 sick leave days in their last year before retirement.

In response to this problem, in 1969, Congress changed the law to permit employees to receive credit for any accrued sick leave. This policy has remained in place for CSRS—whatever accrued sick leave an employee has, that time is added to their annuity. Not surprisingly, Federal employees began conserving sick leave. A later GAO report showed that retiring employees had significantly higher sick leave balances than those who retired before the law was changed.

The Congress's failure to learn from the past has caused history to repeat itself. When the FERS retirement system was created in 1986, Congress explicitly eliminated the sick

leave incentive, though they were cognizant of the possible consequences. Report language accompanying the new statute indicate that Congress believed that "without an incentive to save sick leave, the use of sick leave may increase substantially."

The "FERS Sick Leave Equity Act" will reverse the growing trend of using sick leave by providing the same benefit to FERS retirees that CSRS retirees currently receive. Under the proposal, all FERS-eligible employees will add their accrued sick leave to the years of service that employee has worked in the Federal Government. These years of service are part of the FERS retirement benefits calculation, providing a real incentive to accrue as much sick leave as possible.

The proposal has gained widespread endorsement by Federal employees who know the problem firsthand: the managers who experience the problem every day and the organizations that know the negative effect of the "use-it or lose-it" policy. The supporting organizations include the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), American Foreign Service Association (AFSA), American Postal Workers Union (APWU), FAA Managers Association (FAAMA), Federal Managers Association (FMA), Federally Employed Women (FEW), Government Managers Coalition (GMC), Senior Executives Association (SEA), National Council of Social Security Management Associations (NCSSMA), Professional Managers Association (PMA), National Association of Government Employees (NAGE), National Association of Postal Supervisors (NAPS), National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), National Rural Letter Carriers Association (NRLCA), and the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU). I am proud and grateful to have this support for the proposal.

Madam Speaker, we need to incentivize the accrual of sick leave, not to keep a policy in place that encourages people to call in sick in the weeks leading up to retirement. It will save the Federal Government millions while providing sick leave parity for FERS employees and their CSRS counterparts. I look forward to working with the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the full House of Representatives on this pressing issue.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHESAPEAKE GATEWAYS AND WATERFALLS NETWORK REAUTHORIZATION

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network (CBGN), a program that connects those who live in the Bay watershed to the natural, cultural and historic resources of the Bay and thereby encourages individual stewardship of these resources.

The legislation I am introducing today is identical to the bill that passed the House of Representatives by an overwhelming and bipartisan vote of 321 to 86 during the 110th Congress. Unfortunately, we were not able to

get the bill to the President's desk but I am hopeful that we will complete our work on this legislation during the 111th Congress.

Since 2000, Gateways has grown to include more than 150 sites and over 1500 miles of established and developing water trails in six states and the District of Columbia. Through grants to parks, volunteer groups, wildlife refuges, historic sites, museums, and water trails, the Network ties these sites together to provide meaningful experiences and foster citizen stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay.

Madam Speaker, for a very modest investment, the Gateways program helps foster the citizen stewardship that will be necessary to advance Bay cleanup and maintain the gains we hope to make in the coming years. By reauthorizing the Gateways program and providing access to the beautiful sites that make up the network, we can help develop the next generation of environmental stewards, which is one of the best ways to truly "Save the Bay." I hope that my colleagues will support this legislation so the Park Service can continue to play a key role in the Bay cleanup effort.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LEGISLATIVE AUTONOMY ACT OF 2009

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, last week, I introduced the District of Columbia Budget Autonomy Act. Today, I am introducing its fraternal twin, the District of Columbia Legislative Autonomy Act of 2009, to end discriminatory and unnecessary congressional review of District of Columbia legislation. I introduce these bills in sequence because Congress makes a mockery of self-government when it denies the citizens of the nation's capital the right to enact a local budget, as well as civil and criminal laws, free from interference.

In 2007, this bill was passed by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Budget Autonomy bill was cleared by the subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and District of Columbia that year as well. However, I decided to delay taking these bills to the floor because of threatened debilitating amendments and possible difficulties getting President Bush to sign these bills.

The legislative autonomy bill would eliminate the 30 day and 60 day congressional review period for civil and criminal bills, respectively. Because the period of Congressional review involves only days when Congress is in session, not ordinary calendar days, bills signed by the mayor laws typically do not become law for months. A required hold on all D.C. bills forces the D.C. City Council to pass most legislation using a cumbersome and complicated process in which bills are passed concurrently on an emergency, temporary, and permanent basis to ensure that the operations of this large and rapidly changing city continue uninterrupted. Because of the complications and timeframes involved, some bills do not become law at all. The Legislative Autonomy Act would eliminate the need for the D.C. City Council to engage in this Byzantine process.

The current law is an obsolete, demeaning, and cumbersome mechanism, which Congress

no longer uses, and seldom used in the past. Yet, the D.C. City Council continues to be bound by Section 602 of the Home Rule Act, and therefore continues to abide by its awkward and debilitating rules. Our bill would do no more than align D.C. City Council and congressional practices. Instead of the cumbersome formal filing of disapproval resolutions that require processing in the House and the Senate, the Congress has preferred to use appropriations attachments. It is particularly unfair to require the D.C. City Council to engage in the tortuous process prescribed by the Home Rule Act that Congress itself has discarded. My bill would eliminate the formal review system that long ago died of old age and disuse. Congress has walked away from the layover review and should allow the city to do the same.

Today's bill, of course, does not prevent review of District laws by Congress. Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, the House and the Senate could scrutinize every piece of legislation passed by the D.C. City Council, if desired, and could change or strike such legislation under its plenary constitutional authority over the District. However, since the Home Rule Act became effective in 1974, of the more than 2,000 legislative acts that have been passed by the D.C. City Council and signed into law by the Mayor, only three resolutions to disapprove of a D.C. bill have been enacted, and two of these involved a distinct federal interest. Placing a hold on our 2,000 D.C. bills has not only proved unnecessary, but has meant untold wasted costs in terms of money, staff and time to the District and the Congress. Although 36 years of Home Rule Act history shows that congressional review is unnecessary, this bill merely eliminates the automatic hold placed on local legislation and the need for the D.C. City Council to use a phantom process passed for the convenience of Congress, but one that Congress has eliminated in all but law.

Congress continually urges the District government to pursue efficiency and savings. It is time for Congress to do its part to promote greater efficiency, both here and in the District, by streamlining its own redundant and discarded review processes. Eliminating the hold on D.C. legislation would not only save scarce D.C. taxpayer revenue, but would benefit the city's bond rating, which is affected by the shadow of congressional review that delays the finality of District legislation. At the same time, Congress would not give up any of its plenary power because the Congress may intervene into any District matter at any time under the Constitution.

The limited legislative autonomy granted in this bill would allow the District to realize the greater measure of meaningful self-government and Home Rule it deserves and has more than earned in the 36 years since the Home Rule Act became effective. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure.

HONORING ALISHA YOUNG,
YOUTHBUILD LEADER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize a dedicated and committed

young woman in West Virginia, Alisha Young. Ms. Young, a native of Montgomery, West Virginia, has overcome steep odds to gain an education and has tirelessly dedicated herself to the betterment of southern West Virginia and her neighbors.

Despite hardship early on, Ms. Young worked part-time in her local community to help her mother provide for their family and got herself through high school and into college. After a series of unfortunate choices, Alisha found herself back at home and joined YouthBuild, a youth and community development program which addresses low-income community challenges, including housing, education, employment, crime prevention, and leadership development.

Ms. Young speaks passionately about her work with YouthBuild. In a recent editorial in *The Charleston Gazette*, she highlighted the opportunity that participants have to obtain their GEDs or high school diplomas while learning career- and leadership-skills and earning money to build affordable homes for homeless and underprivileged families.

Now a self-proclaimed YouthBuild leader, Alisha has persevered and hopes to return to her education in the near future. She is currently serving in the AmeriCorps VISTA program and working with the YouthBuild USA Young Leaders Council.

It is from Alisha Young's example that I hope we can all learn. Her enthusiasm for her work and YouthBuild are a testament to the strong and compassionate spirit of volunteerism in West Virginia and America.

As citizens of this great Nation, it is our duty to help the less fortunate using our strengths and talents to help those in need, and to inspire those who are lost. Today, I am proud to recognize her hard work and determination and congratulate Ms. Young for her commitment to personifying the change she hopes to see in the world through her work.

THE BELLS OF BALANGIGA: IT IS TIME TO GO HOME

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I recently introduced my bill, H. Con. Res. 30, which urges the President to authorize the transfer of ownership to the Philippines of the bells taken in 1901 from the town of Balangiga in the Philippines. The bells are currently displayed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

In the 108 years since the taking of the bells occurred, the citizens of the United States and the Philippines have shared many historic and political ties. The Philippines was a staunch ally of the United States during World War II. Brave Filipino soldiers were drafted into service by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, fought side-by-side with American soldiers, and were instrumental in the successful outcome of World War II. Filipino soldiers also fought along side our soldiers on the battlefields of Korea and Vietnam.

Since the independence of the Philippines in 1946, the U.S.-Philippine relationship has been largely one of friendship and cooperation. The Philippines is a republic patterned basically on our own system of government. The Philippines is a valuable trading partner of the U.S. and an ally in the war against terrorism. Approximately 2.9 million Americans are of Filipino descent and close to 250,000 United States citizens reside in the Philippines. The acts of conflict that surrounded the taking of the bells of Balangiga are not consistent with the friendship that is currently an integral part of the relationship between our two nations.

The Republic of the Philippines has repeatedly requested the return of the bells. They are an important symbol to the Filipino people, who wish to have them re-installed in the belfry of the Balangiga Church. I believe that it is time to resolve this situation in order to solidify the bonds between our two nations. My resolution would honor and promote the positive relationship our counties enjoy.

As the years pass, I am confident that relations between our two nations will grow even stronger. To that end, the United States Government which has final disposition over the bells of Balangiga should transfer ownership of the bells to the people of the Philippines as a measure of good will and co-operation.

LET'S PROTECT MOBILE HOMES

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I have reintroduced the Mobile Home Protection Act (H.R. 741). The purpose of this bill is to provide Section 8 assistance to low-income owners of mobile homes.

Owning one's home is a central part of the American Dream. For many low-income Americans, mobile homes provide the opportunity to achieve this goal of homeownership.

However, in many cases, while the family owns their home, they do not own the land on which the home sits. In some cases, the landlord will not accept section 8 vouchers for the land on which the mobile home sits.

I have introduced the Mobile Home Protection Act to correct this problem. This bill would provide this Section 8 assistance directly to the homeowners to apply towards their rent costs for the land on which their homes sit.

Many mobile home owners have invested their life savings into buying their mobile homes. As mobile home park rents increase these low-income homeowners are not able to keep up with this cost. This legislation will help keep these homeowners in their homes and maintain these established communities.

NO MORE NAVY BASES ON FAULT LINES

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I recently introduced legislation, H.R. 740, intended to prevent the Department of Defense from building new bases and facilities along seismic fault lines.

In San Diego, California, the Department of the Navy is planning a mixed-use development along the downtown waterfront that will incorporate not only a new Navy headquarters, but also business, commercial, and housing elements. It has come to my attention that the land in question is within the Uniform Building Code (UBC) Seismic Zone 4.

My bill requires the lease for this development to be revoked unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that seismic activity would not have any significant impact on any portion of the proposed development. My bill would also extend this requirement to other leases on which no substantial construction has already begun.

In my view, it is only reasonable to require a scientific review of this issue before construction begins. We should not allow the Department of Defense to build new bases on fault lines.

HONORING SLAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to speak about a concurrent resolution that I have reintroduced that recognizes the service and sacrifice of our law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

My legislation would express the sense of Congress that a stamp, called the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Stamp, should be issued to honor law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

On average, a law enforcement officer is killed in America every other day. Since 1792, when recordkeeping started, more than 18,200 officers have lost their lives in service to their communities. In 2008, 140 officers were killed in the line of duty.

Too many police officers are killed or injured in the line of duty every day and this legislation is a way to thank those who put their lives in danger every time they put on their uniforms. I am proud to sponsor such a worthy legislation.

I invite my colleagues to join with me in commending our law enforcement officers. It is extremely important that we honor these everyday heroes! Please join me in supporting the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Stamp Act (H. Con. Res. 31).